

Because the settlers in Center Creek depended upon farming for their livelihood, irrigation waters were of utmost importance. Some of the earliest community cooperative projects, as well as some of the disputes, transpired because of the need for irrigation water.

The first settlers in the area laid claim to the water in Center Creek and also some of the smaller streams nearby. This meant that new families coming into the area either had to get permission from the older residents to use the water, or look elsewhere for their irrigation needs. The new settlers felt that there was ample water for everyone if it were to be distributed fairly, but try as they would, they couldn't persuade the original settlers to give up much of it.

As a result, many meetings were held in an effort to solve the problem, and it was finally resolved that the newer settlers would go into Center Creek Canyon and look for sites where reservoirs could be built to hold water that was just going to waste. They located and staked out six reservoir sites, and began the task of building the dams. However, the struggles were still not ended because the early settlers then attempted to stop them from filling the dams. Many lively meetings ensued before it was finally decided to organize a reservoir company in 1879 and subsequently the Center Creek Irrigation and Water Company in 1887. Now 72 years later these two companies were consolidated in 1962.

With the organization of the Irrigation Company, the settlement of disputes was left up to the officers and directors, who attempted to be as fair as possible. William Richardson Sr. was the first president of the company. Other officers were Parley Murdock, Archibald Sellers and George Hyrum Sweat.

While the community of Center Creek was growing, another community about two miles north of Center began to develop. This was known as Lake Creek, and began about 1877. Robert Lindsay and his wife Sarah Ann, and William Lindsay and his wife Mary, had been living in Heber, but decided to look around for a site where they might establish more permanent homes. They finally decided on a site three miles east of Heber, near a spring, and in 1877 moved from Heber to begin farming the rich soil.

They built log homes and lived close together until about 1883 when they decided it would be much easier to work the farm land if one family lived in the upper section. They drew lots to see who would move, and Robert got the "cut" to move. He built a two-room log house and later a large, two-story home for his family.

As these men found success in farming the Lake Creek land, others soon began to take up homesteads in the area. Some of these homesteaders included Bengt Peterson, James Nash, William Murdoch Sr., William Baird Sr. and John W. Crook.

An excellent sandstone quarry was developed on property owned by John Crook and Herbert Clegg. The stone was used to build many of



A home built from red sandstone by Thomas Phillips in the early days of the Lake Creek area. This photograph was taken of the home in 1910.

the homes in Center Creek, Lake Creek, Heber and even in Salt Lake City. Some of the buildings constructed of the stone were the Stake House and County Court House, the jail and the Central and North Schools, all in Heber. The sand stone was also used for sidewalks and for lining graves.

Lake Creek settlers also had their irrigation water problems as the population began to grow, and on May 2, 1888 the farmers of the area met to formulate plans for an irrigation company. An organizing committee was formed with Robert Broadhead as chairman and Robert Clegg as secretary. By July 6, 1888 the company organization was ready and Mr. Broadhead was elected as the first president. William Lindsay was named secretary with Henry Chatwin as treasurer and John Lee and Henry Clegg as directors.

First stockholders in the company were Henry Clegg, Robert Broadhead, John Lee, Henry Chatwin, James Nash, Elizabeth Nash, a Mrs. Phillips, John Baird, William Baird, James Baird, Robert and William Lindsay, Milton and William Murdoch, Orson Lee, Abram Hatch, Bengt Peterson, Mrs. Elisha Jones, Richard Jones, Thomas Campbell, William Blake, Mrs. William Cole, Eric Erickson, William Priestly, John Lloyd, Nels and Ludwig Anderson, Thomas and William Clegg, William Davis, Rasmus Miller, Rasmus Anderson and Charles W. Giles.

For several years the Lake Creek settlement continued, and separate school and church organizations were developed. However, it was gradually assimilated into the Center Creek development and became part of that community.

Industry in Center Creek has largely centered around farming. However, one of the first sawmills in the valley was constructed in Center Creek Canyon by Henry McMullin, William M. Wall and James Adams.

A general store was opened by William Baxter, who also operated a creamery. He bought milk from the farmers, made it into butter and

and closeness with each other when we do things as a family. I guess being in the mountains is our favorite way. I enjoy hiking, tubing down the river, sun tanning, sewing and art work. I drew the cover of our school yearbook in Jr. High School. I find it restful drawing and hope to do more of it as the kids get older. I also like playing the clarinet. I became one of the best players in my class. As time went on I lost interest in it, but I'd like to pick it up again and get back into the swing of it.

We've had and are still having a happy life together. There'll be plenty of more things to come as our kids and we grow up together.

RAY AND GLADYS MILLER

Ray M. Miller was born June 11, 1912, in Heber City, Utah, a son of Moroni M. and Astrid Marie Hansen Miller. He was raised in Heber with a brother, Earl, and a sister, Venice. Ray's mother died when he was four and one half years old and an uncle, Al Miller, took the baby girl to raise with his family. His father married a second time and had another son, Wallace A., but when this baby was four months old, his mother died suddenly and the infant was raised by relatives so Ray never knew him as a brother.

Ray attended North Elementary School and graduated from Wasatch High School in 1932. With the exception of one year in Park City, he spent his childhood and youth in Heber. Upon graduating, Ray began herding sheep. It was the time of the great depression and work was very hard to find. After a few years of herding, he got a job in the mines working in both Keetley and Park City. He loved to go to dances, and at a dance one night he met a beautiful young lady named Gladys Marie Smith. He was very taken with her and on December 24, 1936, she became his Christmas bride. A lady who later became their close neighbor in the Third Ward, Manila Patterson, was their witness to their marriage.

Gladys was born in Riverdale, (North Midway Road), Wasatch County, Utah, March 25, 1917, a daughter of John R. and Mary Rodeback Smith. She was one of nine children born to this couple. The others are John Lavant, Grace Elizabeth, Liza Livisa, Albert R., Ida Ann, Melvina Adelaide, Fern and Isaac Arthur. These

Check Indian File on Smith Family

children were all delivered by a mid-wife, Mrs. Joseph Galli, from Midway.

Gladys attended elementary school in Springville, Utah for three years and then finished her education in Park City. She did housework for new mothers and helped them with the children, which qualified her very well for her role as a homemaker and mother when her own children were born.

To Ray and Gladys were born six children, Mickey Ray, Pauline Gladys, Janet Marie, Joan Rae, Alene Karen and Ray E.

With the exception of twelve years the Millers lived on a ranch in Lake Creek, the family has resided in Heber.

Ray liked to raise Malamute and Husky cross-breed dogs and train them to pull sleighs, but it was difficult to keep them in the city and he had to stop. He began collecting rocks and especially liked mineral rocks and gem stones. He does lapidary work and faceting of precious stones.

Gladys loves to sew, do craftwork and raise flowers, especially unique and rare flowers and cacti. She and Ray also enjoy working in their large vegetable garden and she cans and preserves much of the food they use. Everyone in the ward has admired the beautiful flower and vegetable garden that graces the Miller yard every spring and summer.

ALLEN AND HELEN HENLEY MOULTON

Allen Moulton was born March 18, 1954 to Dean and Glenna Moulton. He has one brother and one sister who all grew up in Heber City, Utah. Allen has held many jobs since he graduated from Wasatch High School. He has worked as a truck driver, miner, carpenter and at various other jobs. His activities include outdoor sports of all kinds.

Allen married Helen Rose Henley from Park City, Utah on January 27, 1978. She was born in the old Miner's Hospital in Park City, March 20, 1959. Her parents are Bud and Marva Henley. They, like Helen, were born and raised in Park City and are still living there. Helen has an older sister and brother. She enjoys outdoor sports and especially is interested in fishing.

Happy 80th
Birthday, Dad



6-10-92
Happy 80th
Birthday, Dad



Ray M Miller



Rone Miller, Lake
Creek, taken about
1912.

—Submitted by
Grace Pope



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Creek, taken about
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